

MMDP FY08 Financial Assistance Projects

The Missouri Market Development Program awarded \$332,443 to eight Missouri establishments in its Fiscal Year 2008 Financial Assistance Projects. These projects propose to create 15 new full time jobs and divert more than 49,000 tons of waste annually from Missouri landfills.

Alternative Community Training, Inc. (Columbia) was awarded \$50,000 to purchase a granulator and VHS tape disassembler costing \$71,000 to process VHS tapes in order to separate the component parts into marketable quantities while protecting proprietary information. Alternative Community Training, Inc. (ACT) is a non-profit organization that provides training and employment services for disabled adults, processing floppy disks, VHS tapes, CDs and other "technotrash." At present, the VHS format tape has little or no value, either for resale or recycling. The requested equipment will greatly enhance the recycling value by separating components and grinding them into marketable commodities. ACT currently has an extensive amount of VHS tapes on hand and past technical assistance provided by the program concluded that there is a tremendous volume of VHS tapes ready for disposal within other businesses and organizations. ACT anticipates creating three new full time employee positions and diverting 200 tons annually from Missouri landfills with this project.

Eco Recycling, Inc. (Pagedale) was awarded \$50,000 to purchase a screen costing \$80,000 to expand its concrete and asphalt crushing operation and shingle shredding operation. Eco Recycling began operating in 2006, accepting demolition debris for a tip fee, processing the waste materials and selling them as aggregate for various uses. The company is able to accept materials at a rate less than landfill tipping fees and sell product at rates less than area quarries, but has not been able to process materials quick enough to keep up with demand on either end. Eco Recycling recently purchased a large grinder and the addition of the screen will enable an increased diversion of 93,000 tons annually while creating twelve new full time employee positions.

Performance Roof Systems, Inc. (Kansas City) was awarded \$50,000 to purchase a shredder needed to recycle waste roofing membranes. Performance Roof Systems manufactures Derbigum APP modified bitumen roof membranes. This project proposes to recover defective membrane rolls, contractor scrap and tear-offs from roofs that have surpassed their lifetime. The membrane consists of a homogeneous blend of asphalt, polymers, limestone, and polyester and glass fibers. The material will be collected, processed and returned to the batching process for the manufacture of new membranes. Currently, there is no other roof membrane recovery operation in Missouri. Performance Roof

Systems anticipates diverting 450-900 tons from the waste stream annually and creating 1-2 new full time positions with this project.

Eharas Services & Solutions, Inc. (Liberty) was awarded \$50,000 to purchase a track grinder costing \$579,496 to expand its waste wood recycling operation. Eharas was formed two years ago to meet the demand for quality ground white wood mulch in the Kansas City area. The company works with contractors, pallet manufacturers and sawmills to take waste wood and grind it into mulch. This product can be found in area stores such as Lowes, Home Depot, and Sutherlands. Eharas is currently at maximum capacity, producing twenty semi-loads of mulch each week, and is unable to keep up with available quantities of wood waste. The company has recently tested a larger grinder and found that it performs much better and is substantially more fuel efficient. Eharas estimates that this project will divert an additional 18,240 tons from the waste stream annually and create two new full time employee positions.

Hansen's Tree Service & Environmental Wood Resources (O'Fallon) was awarded \$50,000 to purchase a mulch colorization unit to more efficiently process diverted wood waste, resulting in the sale of additional product, thus allowing for more material to be diverted and recycled. Hansen's Tree Service was founded in 1989 and has worked to produce a mulch product that meets the highest standards of appearance and value. The company recycles green waste from a variety of sources including residential and commercial tree work, land clearing, and yard waste collections. As their mulch market has grown, customers have demanded continued improvement in quality and color variety. Hansen's has conducted research over the past six months and have determined that accommodating the expanding demand for colored mulch is the most effective way to enhance their recycling efforts and increase sales. Hansen's anticipates that the new equipment will enable the company to divert an additional 5,900 tons from the waste stream annually and create one new full time employee position.

Windswept Worm Farm (Blue Springs) was awarded \$35,000 to purchase a "continuous flow worm machine" costing \$70,000 to support the increase in demand for worm castings and to reduce the death rate of worms in the process of harvesting worm castings. The equipment would also improve order processing and bagging capabilities by removing only pure castings from the worm beds. Windswept Worm Farm is a previous program participant and produces worms and their castings by utilizing virtually any type of biodegradable material, including food, yard and animal waste. The company produces three products: worm castings, worm compost tea, and bait worms for recreational fishing. The new equipment would increase production from 1,200 cubic yards of castings per year to 5,000 cubic yards per year. Windswept Worm

Farms anticipates diverting an additional 336 tons from the waste stream annually and creating one new full time employee position with this project.

Loganbill Enterprises, Inc. (Latham) was awarded \$35,000 to purchase a mulch colorizer costing \$70,000 to expand existing operations. The family owned business produces shavings, mulch and compost and is a successful past participant in the program. Loganbills currently uses a colorizer that colors approximately 30-35 yards per hour. The new equipment would increase production to 200 yards per hour, enabling the company to meet the steadily increasing demand for colored mulch. A new colorizer will also use 35% less water, allowing for a dryer finished product, which will enable Loganbill's to haul a bigger load, saving on delivery costs. Loganbill Enterprises anticipates diverting an additional 2,750 tons per year and creating four new full time employee positions with this project.

Central Missouri Poultry Producers (Barnett) was awarded \$23,332 to purchase a compost bagging system costing \$31,110 to expand its existing operations. CMPP is a non-profit cooperative with twelve family members that produces compost from poultry manure and sawdust and markets it under the name of "Early Bird Compost." The cooperative believes bagging the product will add to its value and allow for marketing through chain stores and other distributors. The poultry manure used in the production of the compost is supplied by the cooperative members. The product is currently sold primarily to vegetable producers demanding natural or organic products and interested in using a less refined, but more economical alternative to products typically found at lawn and garden centers. Central Missouri Poultry Producers anticipates diverting an additional 200 tons annually and creating two new part time employee positions with this project.